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Central Intelligence Agency
Washington, D.C. 20505

30 November 1983

Planning Staff

NOTE FOR: ISB Members

SUBJECT: Minutes of 17 October Meeting

Attached are the minutes from the Information
Systems Board meeting held on 17 October. Please
phone any corrections or additions to me on

secure



Executive Secretary, ISB

Attachment

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Executive Summary

83-5685

25 November 1983

MEMORANDUM FOR: Information Systems Board Members

FROM: [REDACTED]

Executive Secretary to the Board

SUBJECT: Minutes of 17 October 1983 Meeting of the
Information Systems Board

1. The Information Systems Board met on Monday, 17 October 1983. Charles Briggs (ExDir) presided and participants included board members: [REDACTED] William Donnelly (D/OC), [REDACTED] (D/OS), Philip Eckman (D/ORD), [REDACTED] (D/Compt substituting for Danny Childs), Rutledge Hazzard (D/NPIC), [REDACTED] (DD/OD&E for Robert Kohler), [REDACTED] (DD/OSO for [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] (DD/OCR for Clarus Rice), [REDACTED] (C/ASG). The following individuals attended, representing their Working Group: [REDACTED] (ISRD/ORD) Chairman of Artificial Intelligence Applications Working Group; [REDACTED] (C/ISSG/OS), Chairman of Computer Security Working Group; [REDACTED] (SA/ODDO), Chairwoman of Executive Information Systems Working Group; [REDACTED] (C/SINAG/MLS/OC), Member of Requirements and Technology Acquisition Working Group. [REDACTED] (O/ExDir), and [REDACTED] (PS) also attended. [REDACTED]

2. Mr. Briggs opened the meeting by thanking the Board members for their perseverance through the first three meetings which dealt primarily with organizational matters. He assured Board members that future meetings would address substantive information handling questions. There were no additions or corrections to the minutes of the 2 September meeting other than Mr. Brigg's suggestion that paragraph five be rewritten to improve clarity. Mr. Briggs also announced that, at Mr. Kohler's suggestion, the Working Groups had drawn up schedules of milestones. The schedules of four Working Groups were disseminated at the meeting and the Computer Security Working Group's schedule was briefed to the Board at the same time the charter was presented. The Artificial Intelligence Applications Working Group has not yet determined its schedule. [REDACTED]

3. [REDACTED] (ORD), summarized the Artificial Intelligence Applications Working Group's charter which focuses on the long-term introduction of artificial intelligence (AI) technology into the Agency. The charter emphasizes information exchange and the mutual education of working group members in particular, and CIA personnel in general, with regard to the [REDACTED]

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25X1 usefulness of AI to the Agency, the shortcomings of current AI
tools, and the most effective intelligence use of promising AI
applications. [] stated that the group is conducting a series
of internal AI project briefings and is planning to establish a
"Blue Ribbon Panel" of external AI experts to consult on potential
25X1 Agency AI applications. They will also develop recommendations for
a long-range plan to manage AI technology transfer into CIA. []

4. In the subsequent discussion, the Board agreed with the
focus and substance of the charter and expressed the hope that the
working group would be able to take AI out of the buzzword stage and
into practical reality. Board members cited several intelligence
problem areas where AI might have a sizeable payoff, including the
25X1 exploitation of open source literature, the analysis and fusion of
intelligence, and the support of special collection systems. []

25X1 5. [] (OS) briefed the Board on the charter and
milestones of the Computer Security Working Group, emphasizing that
the group would support and advise the Board on computer security
matters, draft a charter for a permanent interdirector group,
examine the threats, vulnerabilities, and risks associated with
Agency computer systems, analyze new safeguards for selected
systems, assess the cost and operational impact of security
enhancements, and provide a focal point for the various groups and
individuals concerned with computer security at CIA. Board members
suggested no changes in the group's charter or milestones, but did
comment on the importance of the group's work and urged that the
working group coordinate the efforts of the many Agency components
involved, as well as coordinate Agency involvement in Community-
wide computer security endeavors, such as Ruth Davis's COMPUSEC
25X1 Project. []

25X1 6. [] (DDO) presented the Executive
Information System Working Group's charter and draft milestones.
25X1 [] remarked that the working group had already begun
requirements surveys and, based on these surveys, had noted that:

-- the staffs of senior executives do most of the
information gathering and much of the analysis and thus may
make better use of an information system than the executives;

-- the systems containing management-type information which
exist today are not designed for executive hands-on use;

-- although most senior executives find it difficult to
articulate their requirements for an information system, when
provided with carefully selected capabilities, the executives'
appetite for information system capabilities will grow; and

25X1 -- most of this working group's effort will be related to
the efforts of other groups, thus making the timetables
interdependent. []


25X1 7. Board members suggested no changes to the charter or
 25X1 milestones but did express considerable interest in the group's
 25X1 efforts. [] strongly recommended that the group analyze
 25X1 the failures as well as the successes of executive information
 25X1 systems in the private sector. [] and Bill Donnelly
 25X1 agreed that most senior executives do not know what to ask for and
 25X1 suggested that it is the Board's job to lead them into the future.
 25X1 [] suggested that electronic mail is a good starting
 25X1 point for executives, but Bill Donnelly felt that AIM might not be
 25X1 the right medium for that level. Several Board members suggested
 25X1 that the group look at the ways in which others had identified
 25X1 requirements (surveys, interviews, etc.). [] assured that
 25X1 the working group intended to look at other public and private
 25X1 sector experiences. Mr. Briggs commented that, in certain areas,
 25X1 CIA is being driven by external forces. Agency involvement in tele-
 25X1 conferencing, for example, is being driven by White House
 25X1 initiatives for the crisis management facility. []

25X1 8. [] (OC) next discussed the charter of the
 25X1 Requirements and Technology Acquisition Working Group, noting that
 25X1 deliberations so far had focused more on the requirements process
 25X1 than technology acquisition. The general consensus of the group, he
 25X1 noted, has been for some type of centralized review of requirements.
 25X1 Mr. Briggs noted that there should be no predilection for a
 25X1 centralized organization. Milestones identified were: requirements
 25X1 methodology selection -- end of October; organizational involvement
 25X1 recommendations -- mid-November; presentation of alternatives and
 25X1 recommendations -- January 1984. []

25X1 9. In introducing [] to brief the Board on the ODP
 25X1 re-organization, Mr. Briggs noted that he had enjoyed speaking to
 25X1 ODP personnel at [] conference. He noted that some in the
 25X1 audience reportedly believed that the Board and Working Groups had
 25X1 been formed because ADP was not being properly managed. Mr. Briggs
 25X1 told those at the conference, and repeated to the Working Group
 25X1 members present, that the Information Systems Board was not formed
 25X1 because something is wrong with present ADP management but because
 25X1 policy decisions on ADP issues are needed and because the ADP
 25X1 expertise located throughout the Agency must get to the executive
 25X1 decisionmakers. []

25X1 10. [] then briefed the Board on the impending
 25X1 reorganization of ODP into five groups: Information and Assistance
 25X1 Group (which will include an information center and consulting
 25X1 services), Processing Services Group, Special Systems Group (which
 25X1 will be responsible for CAMS II and eventually will service DDS&T),
 25X1 Intelligence Systems Group (SAFE and service to DDI), and
 25X1 Administrative Systems Group (LIMS and the interface to DDA).
 25X1 [] stressed that the re-organization was undertaken to
 25X1 make the structure of ODP at once more responsive and more
 25X1 transparent to the users of ODP's services. []

11. Mr. Briggs challenged Board members to consider ODP
 personnel for rotational positions into their own components as

25X1 another way to increase both the ODP professionals' knowledge of user requirements and constraints and the recipients' access to professional help. He reminded the Board that to make such rotations attractive and career enhancing, the rotatee had to see that they led to challenging assignments and/or promotions upon return to his home component or while still on rotation. 

25X1 12. Mr. Briggs closed the meeting by reminding the Board
25X1 members that future meetings would concentrate on substantive issues and not working group structure. He asked if there were any issues of common concern that should be aired immediately. No issues were suggested and Mr. Briggs adjourned the meeting. The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, 17 November 1983, at 1100 hours in the DCI Conference Room, 7D64 Headquarters. The Workstation Environment Working Group will brief the Board on the group's Interim Report: "Combining Word and Data Processing in a Single Terminal." Board members will receive copies of the Interim Report before the next meeting. 